

14
REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE

ON

THE LOGAN EVENING SCHOOL

FOR YOUNG MEN

FOR

THE SCHOOL TERM A. D. 1849-50.



PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY T. K. & P. G. COLLINS.

1850.

AT a stated meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society of the Church of the Atonement for the Promotion of Christianity, held May 6th, 1850, the Report of the Committee on the Logan Evening School for Young Men having been read, it was, on motion, ordered that 500 copies be printed.

From the Minutes.

WM. H. WAYNE, *Secretary.*

R E P O R T

*To the Missionary Association of the Church of the Atone-
ment.*

THE first term of the "Logan Evening School for Young Men" having closed on Friday, March 29th, ultimo, the Committee on said School are, by the terms of their appointment, called on to report as to their operations.

In their report made to the Missionary Association in the early part of January last, the Committee announced the gratifying results which had, up to that period, attended their labors. They now present, more in detail, the results for the whole school term.

The number of pupils that attended the School, and the average attendance in the sixteen weeks during which it was held, were as follows:—

| | 1st, | 2d, | 3d, | 4th, | 5th, | 6th, | 7th, | 8th, |
|------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. of pupils that attended, | 147 | 140 | 128 | 97 | 101 | 106 | 96 | 108 |
| Average attendance, | 140 | 119 | 103 | 65 | 80 | 86 | 75 | 85 |
| | 9th, | 10th, | 11th, | 12th, | 13th, | 14th, | 15th, | 16th, |
| No. of pupils that attended, | 101 | 99 | 96 | 82 | 78 | 68 | 63 | 52 |
| Average attendance, | 83 | 79 | 73 | 64 | 62 | 52 | 48 | 40 |

The number of pupils for which the school-room had been furnished prior to the opening of the school, was 100. Such, however, was the eager desire for admission manifested by crowds of applicants, that additional furniture was procured, and the number admitted during the first week allowed to reach 147, and then 50 or more applicants were rejected. The average nightly attendance until the Christmas holidays exceeded 100. The dissipation of this week, the Committee are led to believe, withdrew many who had formed the resolution to devote their evenings to mental improvement.

Again, in the seventh week of the term, the opening of

the Public Evening Schools withdrew a considerable number of pupils residing at a great distance from the Logan School, and in the vicinity of some one of the Public Schools. The number attending, however, was increased by the admission of new pupils; but shortly after, say about the 1st February, began to diminish, and continued gradually so to do as business operations for the spring trade progressed, until the close of the school term.

The whole number of pupils that attended the School was 216; the weekly average number *belonging* (attending the whole or some part of each week) 97.6; the average nightly attendance 78.5; the average number of evenings that the pupils *belonged* 36.1; the average number of evenings that the pupils attended 29; the average number of absentees 19.5 per cent.

The ages of the pupils were as follows:—

| | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 of 13 years | } | |
| 19 " 14 " | | |
| 50 " 15 " | | |
| 30 " 16 " | | |
| 28 " 17 " | | |
| 21 " 18 " | | |
| 12 " 19 " | | |
| 20 " 20 " | | 70 under 16 years. |
| 8 " 21 " | | 119 between 16 and 21 years. |
| 3 " 22 " | | 24 over 21 years. |
| 3 " 23 " | | 3 age not recorded. |
| 3 " 24 " | | |
| 4 " 25 " | | 216 |
| 2 " 26 " | | <u>216</u> |
| 3 " 28 " | | |
| 1 " 29 " | } | |
| 1 " 30 " | | |
| 1 " 31 " | | |
| 1 " 32 " | | |
| 2 " 36 " | } | |
| 3 age not recorded. | | |

216

The average age, adding half a year for fractional excess, was 18.32 years.

The attendance of pupils for the whole or a portion of the term, and the average age of said pupils, are given in the following table:—

| No. of Pupils. | Average Age. | Attended Number of Weeks. | Average No. of Evenings during which in Attendance. |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| 23 | 17.5 years | 16 (= 80 evenings) | 69.5 |
| 6 | 17.6 " | 15 (= 75 ") | 55.5 |
| 11 | 15.3 " | 14 (= 70 ") | 58.6 |
| 7 | 17.3 " | 13 (= 65 ") | 49.6 |
| 3 | 16.5 " | 12 (= 60 ") | 47.3 |
| 8 | 18.2 " | 11 (= 55 ") | 47. |
| 10 | 17.9 " | 10 (= 50 ") | 38.7 |
| 14 | 18.1 " | 9 (= 45 ") | 36.5 |
| 9 | 17.5 " | 8 (= 40 ") | 33.2 |
| 9 | 19.9 " | 7 (= 35 ") | 26.1 |
| 13 | 18.6 " | 6 (= 30 ") | 22.9 |
| 13 | 21.1 " | 5 (= 25 ") | 17.8 |
| 21 | 19. " | 4 (= 20 ") | 14.7 |
| 26 | 19. " | 3 (= 15 ") | 12. |
| 26 | 18.3 " | 2 (= 10 ") | 7.3 |
| 17 | 18.2 " | 1 (= 5 ") | 4.1 |
| <u>216</u> | <u>18.3 "</u> | | <u>29. evenings.</u> |

The occupations of the pupils are as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Paper Hanging Manufacturers | 22 | Brought forward | 108 |
| Employed in Cotton or Woollen | | Ivory Turners | 3 |
| Factories | 33 | Worker in Pearl | 1 |
| Dyers and Calico Printers | 10 | Watchmaker | 1 |
| Engineers | 2 | Piano Forte makers | 2 |
| Machinists | 9 | Carpenters | 10 |
| Employed in Oilcloth Factory | 2 | Brickmakers | 2 |
| " Rolling Mill | 1 | Bricklayers | 3 |
| " Iron Foundries | 6 | Stone Masons | 3 |
| Blacksmiths | 10 | Plasterers | 4 |
| Boiler maker | 1 | Painters | 3 |
| Iron Railing makers | 2 | Coach makers | 4 |
| Umbrella Stretcher makers | 2 | Car builder | 1 |
| Saw maker | 1 | Wheelwright | 1 |
| Cutler | 1 | Boat builder | 1 |
| Worker in Steel | 1 | Mast maker | 1 |
| Brass Turners | 2 | Ship Chandler | 1 |
| Tinsmiths | 3 | Rope makers | 4 |
| Carried forward | 108 | Carried forward | 153 |

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| Brought forward | 153 | Brought forward | 181 |
| Hat body Manufacturers | 3 | Tallow Chandler | 1 |
| Cordwainers | 4 | Cigar maker | 1 |
| Saddlers | 4 | Distiller | 1 |
| Bookbinders | 2 | Omnibus, &c. Drivers | 3 |
| Printer | 1 | Carters | 2 |
| Carpet weaver | 1 | Drayman | 1 |
| Whip maker | 1 | Car Tender | 1 |
| Butchers | 3 | Canal Boating | 1 |
| Bakers | 2 | Bar Tender | 1 |
| Confectioners | 2 | Laborer | 1 |
| Paper Ruler | 1 | Errand Boys | 3 |
| Size maker | 1 | In Stores or Shops | 11 |
| Chemist | 1 | Not employed | 1 |
| Druggist | 1 | Occupations not recorded | 7 |
| Blind maker | 1 | | |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Carried forward | 181 | Total | 216 |

The residences of a very large majority of the pupils are located between Broad Street and the Schuylkill River, and between Race and Coates Streets; yet a very considerable number of the scholars, and they amongst the most eager to improve the opportunity afforded them, came from far beyond these limits, *e. g.*

4 from Kensington, a distance of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

1 “ West of Hamilton Village, “ 3 “

1 “ Ridge Road near Turner's Lane.

1 “ Francisville.

1 “ West Philadelphia.

2 “ Delaware Seventh or Eighth and Poplar Streets.

1 “ Green above Ninth Street.

1 “ Schuylkill Third and South Streets.

And a dozen or more additional, residing from one to two miles distant from the School house.

Your Committee, from the data above given, and from an intimate acquaintance with the operations of the School, feel justified in asserting that the class for whose especial benefit it was established, viz: those who in the period of life usually allotted to schooling had not enjoyed the benefit of proper instruction, and whose business engagements

would now prevent them from attending a day school, formed the entire body of the School, while a decided majority was composed of young men from 16 to 21 years of age. They feel, too, that the average attendance of the pupils generally, and especially the regular attendance of young men who, after laboring during the day, walked from two to three and a half miles to school, authorize them to assert that *Evening Schools for Young Men of the working classes are wanted.*

That, with all the obstacles as to distance, engagements at labor, &c. which a large number of the pupils of the Logan School had to encounter, and after allowing for the abstraction of a considerable number of the best scholars by the Public Evening Schools, ninety-one should still be found to have attended one-half of the school term and upwards, is, in the estimation of your committee, a gratifying evidence of the deep interest felt by the pupils in their studies.

The list of occupations shows, too, that the School was not filled by the commanding authority of a few large manufacturers, but that apprentices from a hundred or more workshops, embracing all the leading mechanical pursuits, voluntarily devoted their evenings to mental culture.

It is with pleasure the Committee report that no serious difficulty was felt by the teachers in preserving good order during school hours. Occasionally an ebullition of animal spirits amongst the younger pupils momentarily disturbed the usual quiet; but it was invariably and promptly checked. The ability and zeal displayed by the Principal and his assistants in the performance of their arduous duties, demand the unqualified commendation of the Committee, who would at the same time express their firm conviction of the advantages resulting from the employment of *female* assistants.

The experience of the school term just closed has somewhat modified the opinions of the Committee on various points, and as the conclusions to which this experience has led may prove serviceable to those to whom the future management of the School shall be entrusted, they are here given.

1st. The Committee are of opinion that pupils under 16 years of age should be excluded from *evening schools for young men*. The experience of this, as well as most, if not all other evening schools in which the younger pupils have been admitted, having shown that the discipline adapted to them is not suited to the older pupils, and not unfrequently induces the latter class to leave the school.

2dly. That the school term should be from October 1st to February 28th, a period of five months. With the month of March the Spring business fairly sets in, and business occupations oblige a large number of the pupils to leave.

3dly. The school hours adopted by the Committee, viz: from 7½ to 9½ P. M., are approved, if the term close with the month of February. If it continue during March the hours should be changed to 7½ and 9½ P. M.

4thly. The Committee are of opinion that the tuition fee of ten cents charged, operated as a stimulant to regular attendance. This the small average absenteeism of 19.5 per cent. they think tends to confirm. As it is probable, however, that in the ensuing Fall the Public Schools of our city and adjacent districts will be opened free of charge, the charging a tuition fee by any other school would be a matter of questionable expediency.

5thly. The Committee have not changed their opinion as to the inexpediency of allotting more than twenty-five scholars to a teacher. Indeed, a smaller number should, they think, compose a class wherever the means for providing the requisite corps of teachers are at command.

6thly. In regard to the studies which should be pursued, the Committee believe that they should be determined by the wants of the scholars, which will be found to vary in different sections. A reference to the list of occupations of the pupils of the Logan School will show that they came, almost without exception, from workshops and factories. Their examination on admission showed that there were none that did not require instruction in the three elementary branches of an English education, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic: hence their studies were confined to them. With pupils more advanced, who would probably be found in evening schools in the more central portions of our city, the Committee doubt not the expediency of instructing in more advanced studies.

7thly. The religious exercises at the opening and closing of the school meet the approval of the Committee. These exercises, which at first called forth the ridicule of some of the scholars, in a few evenings claimed their respectful attention, and, the Committee believe, exerted a most salutary influence.

8thly. As to Lectures, and instruction in Vocal Music. Believing that a course of Lectures on the Mechanical Powers and the Principles of Mechanics would prove interesting as well as profitable to the pupils, and that instruction in Vocal Music would probably be a pleasant variation from the dry (as it was feared they would be thought) studies of the school, the Committee devoted Wednesday evening to these two subjects; but found that to the younger pupils they presented no attractions, while not a few of the older ones were desirous to continue the regular school studies on that evening. The Committee, therefore, towards the close of the term, devoted that evening principally to instruction in Arithmetic. The want of proper apparatus for illustrating the lectures was, the Committee believe, the principal cause of want of interest in them,

manifested by the younger pupils. In regard to instruction in Vocal Music, the Committee believe that it does not present attractions greater than the more important matters embraced in the regular studies of the School, and therefore doubt the expediency of occupying the time of the scholars with it.

The Lectures on Saturday evenings, which were for the benefit of the pupils and their friends, and were generally well adapted to the capacity of the audience, failed to draw such numbers as the Committee thought they were warranted in expecting. The attendance ranged from about 250 down to 60 or 70, and, from the want of a strict enforcement of the rules, the younger portion of the audience became disorderly. The Committee are led to believe that Saturday evening is generally set apart by the orderly portion of the working class for preparation for the Sabbath, and by the disorderly for frolicking, and that a large attendance on that evening cannot be looked for. They are, however, convinced from the regular attendance, orderly conduct, and unwavering attention of many of the older pupils, that such lectures as they were favored with must prove attractive to those who desire to gain information, and they further believe that this class, by the continuance of the delivery of such lectures, would be found steadily to increase from year to year.

Your Committee cannot quit this subject without expressing their appreciation of the aid rendered to the cause in which they have been engaged by the gentlemen who so kindly delivered these lectures, and take pleasure in recording their names as follows:—

DR. M'MURTRIE on the Anatomy of Labor.

PROF. J. C. CRESSON on the Steam Engine.

DR. H. S. PATTERSON on the Laws of Health.

PROF. C. D. CLEVELAND on Persevering Effort, illustrated by the Advance and Retreat of the 10,000 Greeks under Xenophon.

PROF. J. F. FRAZER on the Atmospherie Air.

Second Lecture on the Magnetic Telegraph.

PROF. J. S. HART on Progress.

HON. W. D. KELLEY on Law.

RT. REV. ALONZO POTTER, D. D. on Inertia.

DR. WM. ELDER on Intellectual and Moral Philosophy.

Second Lecture on Habit.

DR. CHARLES M. WETHERILL on the Chemical Properties of the Atmospherie Air.

REV. K. GODDARD on Optics.

9thly. In relation to a Library, which it was contemplated to establish for the use of the pupils, the Committee were, very shortly after the opening of the School, convinced that while attending the School the great majority of the pupils could devote very little, if any time, to the perusal of books at home; and they were further induced to relinquish all efforts for the establishment of a library and reading room, from the fact that a committee of gentlemen were operating in the matter, who designed to establish six in different parts of the city and suburbs.

For their receipts and expenditures the Committee beg to refer you to the accompanying statement, by an inspection of which you will perceive that the total sum expended on the School falls about thirty-five dollars short of the estimated cost submitted to you, while the receipts from tuition fees exceed the estimate \$16.57.

Your Committee feel assured that the money and the labor expended on the Logan Evening School for Young Men, have not been in vain. Many of the young men who attended the School have had a taste for intellectual improvement implanted, and habits of good order formed which must improve their character as citizens.

The experiment of Evening Schools for young men, if experiment it may be called, has been fairly tried in Phi-

Philadelphia, and has been pronounced by the public successful. In establishing the Logan Evening School the Missionary Association of the Church of the Atonement may justly claim the honor of having been instrumental in no trifling degree, in turning the public mind to the consideration of the duty which the community is under to supply the means for the education of young men of the laboring classes.

In conclusion, your Committee would express their sincere desire that the labors of the Missionary Association in other fields of Christian philanthropy may prove equally beneficial.

By order of the Committee,

A. C. WILSON, *Chairman pro tem.*

BENJ'N GASKILL, *Secretary.*

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 29, 1850.

Receipts and Expenditures of the Committee on the Logan Evening School for Young Men.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Donations per hands of Missionary Association of the Church of the Atonement | \$486 56 |
| Donations directly to Committee | 208 00 |
| Tuition Fees of Pupils | 122 57 |
| Sales of Books and Stationery at close of term | 5 29 |
| “ “ Fuel “ “ “ | 2 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$824 42 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| For Furniture | \$244 88 |
| “ Books and Stationery | 82 89 |
| “ Rent of Room | 50 00 |
| “ Fuel and Lights | 42 72 |
| “ Salaries of Teachers | 310 50 |
| “ Salary of Room-keeper | 24 00 |
| “ Miscellaneous Items:— | |
| For 500 copies Rep't of Com'tee on Organization of an Evening School, and for 1750 copies of Circular of Logan School | \$30 00 |
| For Distributing Circulars of School | 2 00 |
| “ 250 Notices of Meetings of Committee | 2 00 |
| “ Cab hire for Lecturers | 15 50 |
| “ Removing and Storing Furniture | 10 25 |
| “ Repairs to Windows and Furniture | 2 62 |
| “ Insurance on Furniture | 3 00 |
| “ Sign for School | 3 00 |
| “ Sand, &c. | 45 |
| “ Discount on Bank Notes | 40 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 69 22 824 21 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer | 21 |

NOTE.—In addition to the above-named cash receipts, donations in books, paper, printing, binding, hardware, tinware, crockery-ware, and brushes were received, of an aggregate value of about \$40.

BENJ'N GASKILL, *Treasurer.*

We have examined the above statement and compared it with the vouchers in the Treasurer's hands, and find it correct.

J. S. PAXSON, }
WM. VOGDES, } *Committee.*

PHILADELPHIA, April 29, 1850.

